

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) A method for preparing yeast with improved biotin-productivity, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an integrating plasmid comprising:

(i) a promoter sequence that is functional in yeast, and which is operably linked to a polynucleotide sequence encoding *Candida utilis* biotin synthase, wherein the polynucleotide sequence encoding *Candida utilis* biotin synthase comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(ii) an assistant DNA sequence to promote integration into a host genome; and

(iii) a polynucleotide sequence encoding a yeast selectable marker;

(b) linearizing said integrating plasmid; and

(c) transforming said linearized integrating plasmid into the yeast under conditions that permit recombination between the *Candida utilis* biotin synthase gene and the yeast genome.

9-10. (cancelled)

11. (original) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the assistant DNA sequence is a *Candida utilis* fragment selected from the group consisting of NsiI-BamHI 18s rDNA, URA3 DNA, and HIS3 DNA.

12. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selection marker is a cycloheximide-resistance gene.

13. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the promoter sequence is selected from the group consisting of L41 promoter of *Candida utilis* and ADH1 promoter of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

14. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the prepared yeast with improved biotin-productivity is useful in feed additives, food additives, or cosmetics.

15-16. (canceled)